



1309.43490X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Keishi TAMURA et al.

Serial No.: 10/769,805

Filed: February 3, 2004

For: STORAGE SYSTEM AND STORAGE CONTROLLER

Group: 2186

Examiner: Not yet assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 4, 2005

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and a copy of the document listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

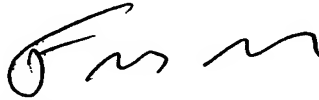
On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is in the English language. An English-language translation of the German Office Action is also attached.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger & Malur, Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. 1309.43490X00) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of
Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark
Office

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

1309.43490X00

SERIAL NO.

10/769,805

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

Keishi TAMURA et al.

FILING DATE

February 3, 2004

GROUP

2186

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	ABSTRACT	
						YES	NO
	EP 1 286 272 A2	02-2003	Europe				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])